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TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

NO FOREIGN DISSEM/BACKGROUND USE ONLY/NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM REPORT NO. TDCSDB-3/654,285

SUBJECT INDICATIONS OF GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM
PLAN TO REQUEST REDUCTION OF AMERICAN
PERSONNEL IN VIETNAM DATE DISTR. 22 APRIL 1963

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF MID-APRIL 1963 REFERENCES IN 22329

INFO. PLACE & VIETNAM, SAIGON (18 APRIL 1963)

DATE ACQ. APPRAISAL SEE BELOW FIELD REPORT NO. FVS-8806

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

APPR

1. BY MID-APRIL 1963 A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TENSION HAD DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT OVER OPERATIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM. BOTH DIEM AND NGO DINH NHU WERE CONCERNED OVER RECENT "INFRINGEMENTS" OF VIETNAMESE SOVEREIGNTY. MAAG WAS CITED AS A VIOLATOR IN THIS CONNECTION, BUT THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES WERE SINGLED OUT AS THE MAIN IRRITANT. DIEM IS ALLOWING ADDITIONAL TIME FOR FURTHER BLUNDERS AND, AFTER BUILDING UP A STRONG CASE, HE PLANS TO CONFRONT AMBASSADOR NOLTING AND USMACV CHIEF GENERAL HARKINS WITH IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE OF U.S. RESPONSIBILITY, DEMANDING A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF U.S.

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PERSONNEL IN SOUTH VIETNAM ON THE BASIS THAT THE FORCE IS TOO
LARGE AND UNMANAGEABLE.

2. SOME VIETNAMESE INVOLVED IN CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS
WITH AMERICANS WERE BEING QUESTIONED IN DETAIL BY PRESIDENCY
STAFF MEMBERS AS TO U.S. ACTIVITIES. SOME OF THE INDIVIDUALS
QUESTIONED HAD INDICATED TO THE PRESIDENCY THAT THE U.S. MILITARY,
AND PARTICULARLY THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES, ALTHOUGH GENERALLY
WELL MOTIVATED, DID NOT SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE NECESSITY FOR
COORDINATING THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH APPROPRIATE VIETNAMESE
AUTHORITIES.

3. FIELD DISSEM. STATE (AMBASSADOR NOLTING), USMACV
(GENERAL HARKINS), MAAG (GENERAL TIMMES), CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC
PACAF.

END OF MESSAGE

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